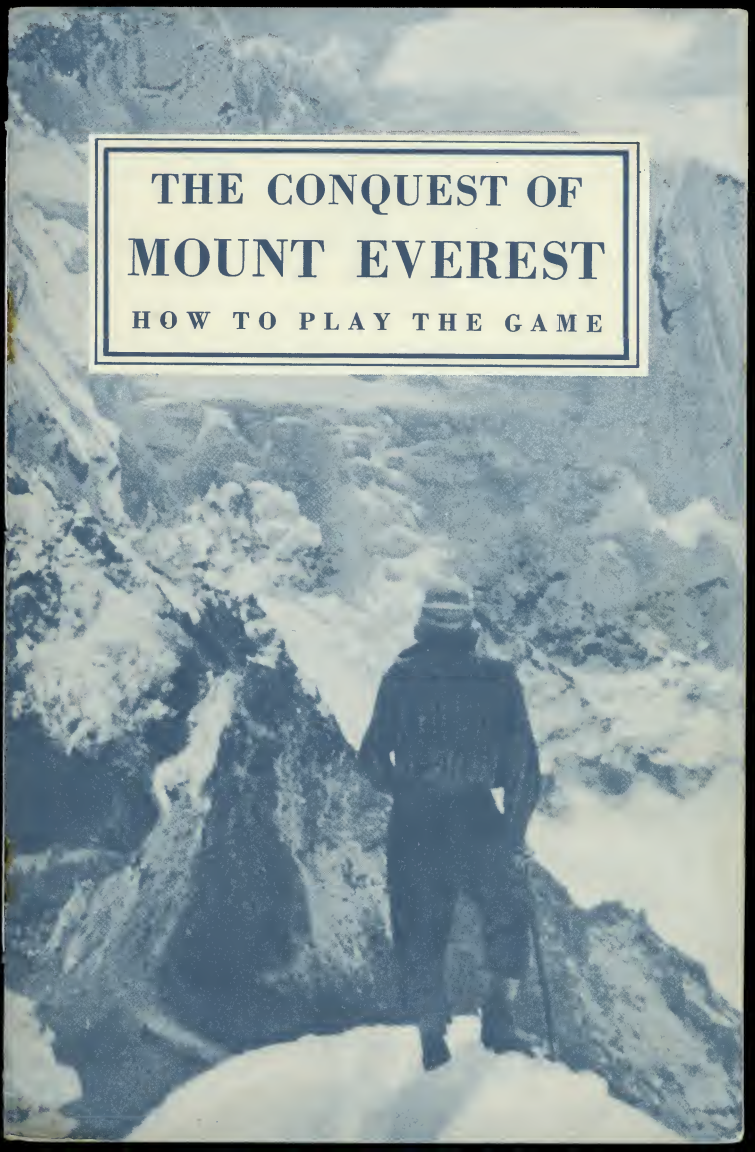
THE CONQUEST OF MOUNT EVEREST

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME



CLIMB MT. EVEREST
THE WORLD'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN

This game of "Mount Everest" comes in a deluxe and standard edition. The deluxe edition has magnetized game pieces which cling to the sides of the mountain (made of special material). The standard size has plastic pieces which fit into cuts on the sides of the mountain.

This game is different from any game you have ever played!

1. It has a three-dimensional game board.
2. Each player moves on his own side of the mountain.
3. The game pieces (mountaineers) move along the sides of the mountain. In the deluxe edition they cling to the mountain because they are magnetized. In the standard size, they are inserted in cuts on the mountain.
4. Each climber has a long and safer route, or two short cuts which are more hazardous, and must choose between them.

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

OBJECT OF THE GAME: To reach the top of Mt. Everest first.

DIRECTIONS: Unfold the four-sided mountain and set it up. Then push the sides together slightly, so that the mountain stands evenly and the four sides are equal.

Throw the die to determine the order of play. Highest throw selects a color and one side of the mountain, and play proceeds clockwise.

Each player starts at his base camp, and the climb is made according to throws of the die, from 1 to 5. 6 on the die means AVALANCHE; player must go back six stops. If he is just starting, he must wait over (lose a turn). If he has progressed less than 6 steps, he returns to his base camp.

SHORT CUT: The short cuts start at the Rest Camps shown by a yellow spot in a blue circle. They end at the camp designated by a green spot.

When a throw of the die brings a player to or beyond the yellow Rest Camp, he must decide whether he wants to take the longer (and safer) path, or if he wants to take a chance on the short cut. In this case he must throw a number that lands him exactly on the green Rest Camp, either in one throw or several smaller throws. However, *any throw which brings him beyond* the green Rest Camp means he must go back to the yellow Rest Camp. Then, when his turn comes again, he may try the short cut again, or proceed on the longer path.

The exact number must be thrown to reach the top of the mountain, and win the game.

SAML GABRIEL SONS & COMPANY NEW YORK

THE NEWBERRY
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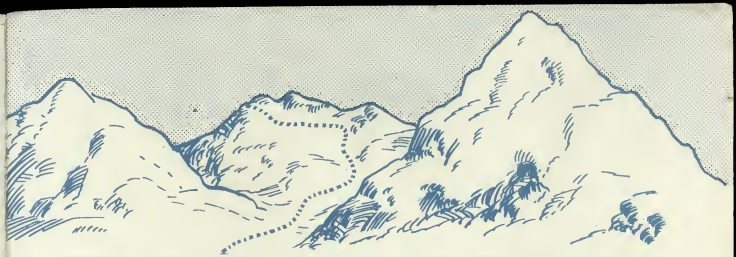


THE STORY OF MOUNT EVEREST

The Mount Everest story begins in 1852, when Colonel Lambton, of the Trigonometrical Survey of India, observed a number of unnamed mountain peaks, the highest of these was called Peak VI, the highest mountain peak in the world. He estimated the height of this peak as about 29,000 feet, about five and a half miles high.

Mount Everest is in the Himalayan Mountain Range in Asia, astride the border of Nepal and Tibet. It is a fantastic mass of rock thrown up by the earth's convulsion, and is still being pushed up by the pressure of the oceans. The chain consists of more than a hundred towering mountain giants stretching in a curve about 1,600 miles long, with an average breadth of about 200 miles. It is a labyrinth of icy peaks, glaciers, gorges and valleys. It consists of cold gale-swept barren crests, and suffocatingly-hot forests and lowland regions abounding in tropical growths.

In 1865, Peak VI was renamed in honor of Sir George Everest, an Englishman, who, at that time, was the surveyor-general of India. The Tibetans call it "Chomolunga," which means, "Goddess of the Snows," or "Goddess Mother of the World."

At this time the peoples of Nepal and Tibet distrusted the white man. They had been

warned by their rulers that if the Europeans were permitted to enter their mountains they would introduce horrible diseases to the county and force uncongenial religions upon its people. So the peoples of both countries united to keep the white man out of the Himalaya, "Abode of Snow." This was easy to accomplish, as all approaches to the mountains were through narrow passes. The natives would waylay the daring travelers who attempted to ascend the mountain, either forcing them to turn back, or in many cases, killing them on the spot. Once in a while explorers did manage to enter the forbidden domains, but the reports they brought back to the outside world were tantalizing though incomplete.

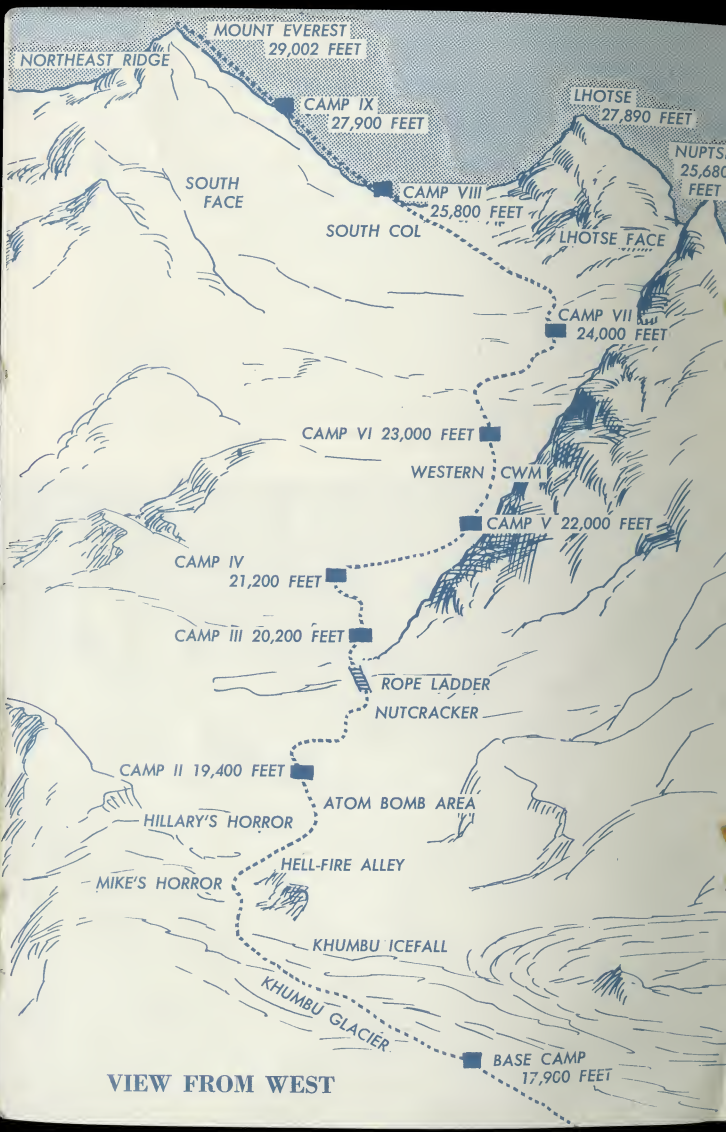
The Tibetan religious systems are based on superstitions. They believe that Gods inhabit the mountain summits, the entrances of which are guarded by huge and terrible monsters. The most terrifying of all these creatures being the "Abominable Snowman," a wild, shaggy, splay-footed beast, who is so powerful that he can kill a huge beast with a single blow of his massive fist. The natives call this beast the "Yeti," and he is pictured as being five feet tall and entirely covered by red shaggy hair. Years later, in 1921, Lieutenant-Colonel Howard-Bury found just such an imprint of a foot in the snow on a glacier of the Menlung basin. It was much too large to be the imprint of the Himalayan bear, which was the only large animal who could have strayed to such a height. Colonel Howard-Bury's Sherpas insisted that the imprint was that of the "Abominable Snowman." Some Europeans believe that the creature is either a rare type of Himalayan bear or a big langur monkey.

Tibet, called "the roof of the world," consists of great table lands rising 15,000 feet in height. It is a desolate land, some parts of which are thrashed by tempests all the year round, while other parts are extremely hot and dry. Though the people of Tibet are under the rule of China, they are actually ruled by the religious authorities, the Lamas; the head or high priest of the cult is the Delai Lama.

Nepal, is the land of valleys, rich in rice fields, tropical forests and lavish flowers. Its people are of mixed Mongol origin, and in the 2,733 temples in the valley, both Hindu and Buddhist priests officiate.

The first notable date in mountain climbing was in 1492, when a party of 12 men climbed a 7,000 foot hill called "The Inacces-

sible Mountain." For the next 300 years mountain climbing were isolated and haphazard affairs. Those daring souls who ventured a mountain summit did so with superstitious fear and trembling. As time went on, and mountain after mountain was conquered, fresh routes became harder to find, explorers began to cast their eyes towards the mountain that loomed highest in the world—Mount Everest. To conquer this great mountain was the dream of every mountain climber. By contrast, the conquest of every other mountain, including the Alps and the Andes, seemed like child's play. In fact, it seemed as if the entire art of mountain climbing had been perfected with only one thought in mind, to equip man for the ultimate test—the conquest of Mount Everest. But Mount Everest was the forbidden mountain, and aside from that, her inner fortresses surrounded by a frozen moat protected her from assault by three deadly weapons, altitude, weather and terrain.



VIEW FROM WEST

THE ASSAULT OF MOUNT EVEREST

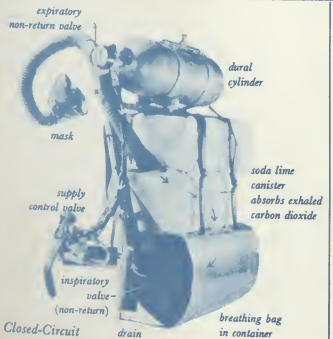
All that had been learned in the preliminary assaults on other mountains meant less than nothing to those early climbers of Everest. No one knew anything about her. Her approaches, her structure and her weather conditions could only be guessed at.

About the hazards and conditions of the lower peaks of the Himalayas, the mountaineers had some idea, due to a wealth of information brought back by the first climbers. They knew Himalayan ice was more plastic than Alpine ice; they knew glaciers, thousands of feet high, were likely to avalanche at any moment, and they knew that the weather conditions were unparalleled, scorching heat, freezing cold, and raging tempests.

But the thing that made Everest murderous was that the cold, the wind, and the climbing difficulties descended upon the mountaineer, at one time, and at an altitude which had already robbed him of his resistance. At 28,000 feet a given volume of air contains only a third as much oxygen as at sea level. To combat this difficulty, climbers used two types of oxygen sets. The first operated on an open-circuit principle; bottle on the climber's back feeds oxygen to his face mask, where it is mixed with outside air, breathed, exhaled and lost. The second type is the closed-circuit system where the climber inhales 100-percent oxygen from a breathing bag; exhaled, his breath returns to the bag through a soda-lime canister, which removes the carbon dioxide.

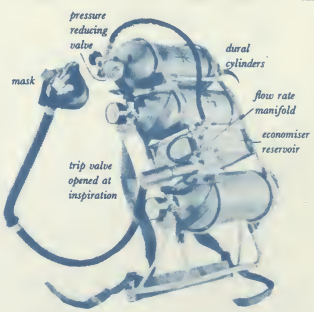
OXYGEN SETS

CLOSED-CIRCUIT



Closed-Circuit
Weight with 1 cylinder 35lb, with 2 cylinders 47 lb

OPEN-CIRCUIT



Open-Circuit
Weight with 3 cylinders 41lb, with 1 cylinder 18 lb

Though many previous attempts had been made to gain permission to explore Everest, it was not until 1920 that the first official passport was granted to Sir Francis Younghusband by the Delai Lama. And, in the Spring of 1921, the first reconnaissance expedition, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Howard-Bury, set forth to explore all the approaches to the great group, and to make preliminary climbs on the mountains to ascertain the conditions and favorable points of attack. Though they failed to find the true approach to the mountain, they collected a vast amount of information and mapped the country to the north of Everest.

In the thirty odd years that followed, seven major expeditions, sponsored by the Joint Himalayan Committee of the Alpine Club and the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain, set out to conquer Everest. Even though each expedition was well-equipped, led and manned by mountaineers of the highest caliber, and supported by armies of porters, the assaults were unsuccessful. In spite of the fact that each expedition pressed the attack to the utmost of human endurance, throwing all its resources, skills, hopes, and even lives into the attempt, they all fell back defeated. But with each new defeat came the renewed desire to conquer Everest. And now, let's proceed with Sir John Hunt and his party, in organizing the expedition that succeeded in conquering the earth's loftiest point—Mount Everest.

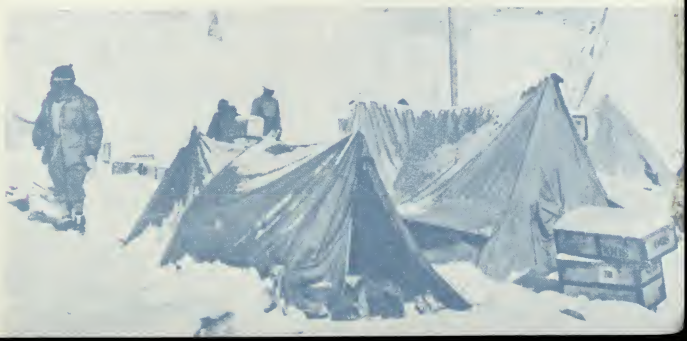
THE CONQUEST OF MOUNT EVEREST

The first concern in Sir John's mind in planning his expedition, was man power. They had to be men between the ages of 25 and 40 years. They had to be men with stamina, Himalayan experience, selflessness and patience. From hundreds and hundreds of applicants, Sir John finally chose the following men. Charles Evans, 33-year old surgeon, who had climbed Annapurna with Tilman in 1950, and Cho Oyu with Shipton in 1952. Tom Bourdillion, 28-year old physicist, who was a veteran of the Alps before he tackled the Himalayas. Alfred Gregory, 39-year old director of a travel agency, who had proved his mettle on Cho Oyu. Charles Wylie, 32-year old officer who had climbed widely in the Alps and Harhwal. Michael Westmacott, 27-year old ex-president of the Oxford University Mountaineering Club. George Band, 23-year old president of the Cambridge Climbing Club, and Wilfred Noyce,

34-year old schoolmaster, author, Alpinist, and wartime instructor for the Royal Air Force in mountain-craft in Kashmir. Michael Ward, 27-year old doctor. Edmund Hillary, 33-year old bee-keeper from Auckland, who had an impressive record for his climbs in 1951 and 1952 into the Himalayas. George Lowe, 28-year old schoolteacher from Hastings who was noted for his ice technique. Griffith Pugh, expert in high-altitude physiology and crack skier. Tom Stobart, veteran cameraman of many expeditions. James Morris, newspaperman representing the London Times, and Sirdar Tensing Norkey, 39-year old Sherpa born in Nepal and raised in India, who had first encountered Everest as a young porter in 1935. No other climber had had more experience with Everest than Norkey, who, in the Spring of 1952 had climbed to an altitude of 28,000 with the great Swiss guide, Raymond Lambert.

Second, in importance, was the equipment, especially the oxygen sets. Sir John, decided on both types, the open-circuit and the closed-circuit. The tents, Sir John selected were made of a new type of cotton-nylon, which was strong enough to withstand gales up to 100 miles per hour. The nylon-covered sleeping bags weighed only about 9 pounds and were lined, inside and out, with bags of down. The primus and butane-gas cook stoves, were provided with special aluminum jackets, to protect them from gusts of wind and to conserve heat. Two types of boots were procured, the one for high-altitude climbing contained a filler of Kapok, between a layer of thin glace' kid with an outer waterproof covering and an inner waterproof lining. The second type, for tricky climbing, were light and close fitting. The diet consisted of two types of

BASE CAMP



composite ration, one of them is used by the army, and is called "Compo" ration, made up in 12-man day packs, for use at periods before the assault. Then the assault ration, small 3-pound, 1-man day packs, made up to suit the particular need at high altitudes. Aside from the usual mountaineering gear, the party included thousands of feet of rope and line, pitons, snap rings, ice hammers and axes. Radio sets were taken along for two purposes: intercommunication between camps on the mountain, and reception of weather bulletins. To these were added a multitude of other items, such as walkie-talkie sets, cameras, ladders, books, games, etc.

For days before the departure, most of the climbers camped on the crest of the Jungfraujoch, 11,340 feet high, and tried out various boots, sleeping bags, tents, stoves, clothes and rations. Three months later, the party assembled at Katmandu, capital city of Nepal. Finally, on March 10 and 11, the porters, weighed down by tons of supplies, set out for the long trek to Thyangboche, the first base camp.

The climbers found the march-in a big glorious vacation, as the country was warm and welcoming. The expedition proceeded and established a base camp at 17,900 feet. Eleven tons of supplies were carried 13 miles from Thyangboche by 450 porters. From here they paid a visit to the abbot of Thyangboche, the principal monastery of Khombu. The abbot served hot buttered tea to the members of the expedition, blessed them, and warned them to beware of the "Abominable Snowman." Sir John agreed to keep a sharp lookout for the monster, and the abbot promised to pray each morning for their safe return.

The party then proceeded along the Khumbu Icefall, beginning at the lower center, around the Khumbu Icefall, where

THYANGBOCHI MONASTERY

gigantic blocks of ice gradually shifted downward, 2,000 feet per mile. As they traveled onward and upward, they named many points in passing: Mike's Horror; Hillary's Horror; Hell-fire Alley, and Atom-Bomb Area, until they pitched Camp II 19,400 feet high. This camp was later abandoned because of alarming glacial movements. The Icefall would stir, as shelves of glacier ahead collapsed, causing avalanches to plunge down the cliffs. After this when the Sherpas had to bring supplies from Base Camp, they skipped this station and pushed on to Camp III, fixing rope ladders at the top of the Icefall.

Camp III, at 20,200 feet, was the lower terminal for supplies being packed up by the Western Cwm. The climate at this point was stifling hot in the mornings, snow every afternoon, and freezing temperatures at night as low as minus 14°F.

Camp IV, at 21,200 feet was an advance base, where as many as 30 men lived in a tent village while supporting the assault parties.

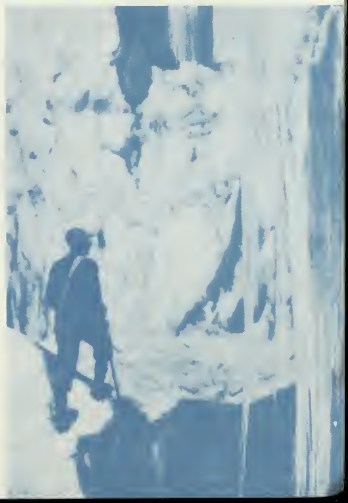
The next camp up the line was Camp V at 22,000 feet at Western Cwm, the foot of the Lhotse Face.

Camp VI, at 23,000 feet, was used only for a short time, during the trailmaking period on the lower part of Lhotse Face.

Camp VII, at 24,000 feet, was the half-way mark on the grueling climb from Camp V to South Col. The traverse was first made by Noyce and Annullu, and the next day, Hillary, Tenzing and Wylie, led 14 Sherpas across the hazardous terrain.

Camp VIII, at 25,800 feet was pitched on May 24 by Hunt, Bourdillon and Evans. Nineteen Sherpas reached this point, six of them made the trip twice, carrying 500 pounds of supplies. From this point, Hunt and a Sherpa named Da Namgyal, carried supplies to 27,350 feet, for the victorious summit team.

ICEFALL BELOW NUP LA



Camp IX, 27,900 feet, where Lowe, Gregory and Ang Nyima left Hillary and Tenzing, pitching tent on the eve of the final assault. On May 26th, South Peak, 28,700 feet, was reached by Evans and Bourdillon, which at that time, was man's highest climb.

THE TRIUMPH ON MOUNT EVEREST

As had been decided weeks before, two assault parties would be brought up together. Evans and Bourdillon would lead off, equipped with closed-circuit oxygen sets. Hillary and Tenzing would comprise the second team, using open-circuit oxygen gear. Each of the two assault parties would be backed up by a supporting team. Evans and Bourdillon had made their bid for the South Peak and were trying for the summit itself. Meanwhile, on the upper slopes, transversing from Lhotse, Hillary and Tenzing, supported by Lowe, Gregory and eight Sherpas, the second assault team, were slowly moving up.

Evans and Bourdillon figured that from South Peak on which they stood, it would take 3 hours to reach the summit, and another 2 hours to return to South Peak, and then about 3,000 feet still to descend to safety. Their oxygen supply was only enough to last a fraction of the time necessary to make the assault and the return trip. So they were forced to turn back. But they had not failed, for they had reached South Peak, studied the final ridge, cached oxygen bottles, and returned to give the next assaulting team the benefit of their experience. Now the hopes of the entire expedition lay in the hands of Hillary and Tenzing.

CUTTING STEPS

On the morning of May 29, 1953, at 8 A.M., Hillary, Tenzing, Lowe, Gregory and Ang

Nyima, packed their gear and shoved off. Lowe, Gregory and Ang Nyima started off first, carrying about 45 pounds of supplies apiece. They planned to cut steps for Hillary and Tenzing, so that Hillary and Tenzing could conserve their energy and oxygen supply.

At 10 A.M., Hillary and Tenzing shoved off, carrying sleeping bags, air mattresses, food and extra clothing. They climbed the steps of the staircase at the foot of the Big Couloir that Lowe, Gregory, Ang Nyima and their party had cut for them. At this point, Lowe, Gregory, Ang Nyima and the rest of the party turned back. Hillary and Tenzing crawled into their sleeping bags, lit their primus stove and prepared a supper of tinned apricots, dates, sardines, jam, honey and biscuits. After they had eaten they tried to get some sleep. They used only 4 hours of oxygen in two-hour shifts, and at 4 A.M., they got up and poked their heads out of the tent opening. The wind was mercifully still—a good time to start.

Tenzing broke trail through the powdery snow, with Hillary following close behind him. They immediately made for the hollow in which Evans and Bourdillon had hidden the oxygen cylinders. Pawing the ice from the gauges, they saw that the cylinders contained about 1,000 pounds of pressure. They started chipping steps. By 9 A.M. they reached South Peak and checked their oxygen tanks. They each had one full bottle left, which would be good for about 4½ hours of climbing.

Hillary lead off, cutting a 40-foot line of steps, then rested before he took a few turns of his rope around his ax. Tenzing came up to join Hillary, and belayed him as Hillary carved another flight of steps.

They moved steadily along, avoiding rickety cornices and

ROPE LADDER BRIDGE

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gaping crevasses. Up and up they climbed, using their elbows, shoulders, knees, and even the oxygen sets strapped to their backs, in an attempt to get more leverage. Praying silently all the while that the overhanging cornices wouldn't break away. Foot by foot they inched up the chimney. It took them more than a half an hour before they were finally able to wriggle over the top ledge. Once there, they lay gasping like fish out of water, amazed, beyond all measure, that they had reached the point they had. For the first time since the beginning of the assault, Hillary and Tenzing were convinced that this time they were going all the way to the summit.

One flight of steps they chipped, then another, and then still another, until they reached a ridge. It was a soft, round, snow-covered little mound about as big as a haystack. Suddenly they realized that the ridge on which the mound stood, did not slope up—IT SLOPED DOWN!

Hillary and Tenzing had done what no other mortal man could accomplish. THEY HAD REACHED THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT EVEREST!

BRIDGING A CHASM

Cautiously they picked their way for the next few feet. The snow was solid and firmly packed. Hillary and Tenzing looked at each other, too exhausted to do any more than thump each other weakly on the back. They looked at their watches, the time was 11:30 A.M. It had taken them 2½ hours from South Peak; 5 hours from their tent.

Moving down the cone a few feet, Hillary snapped a picture of Tenzing, holding up his ice ax with the flags of the United Nations, Great Britain,

Nepal and India, around it standing stiffly in the wind. Unfortunately, Tenzing was not able to take a picture of Hillary.

Tenzing kneeled down and scooped a small hole in the snow. With trembling hands, he buried a few offerings to the Gods that many Buddhists believe inhabit the summit, a small blue pencil given him by his daughter, a bar of chocolate, a few biscuits and a cluster of lollypops.

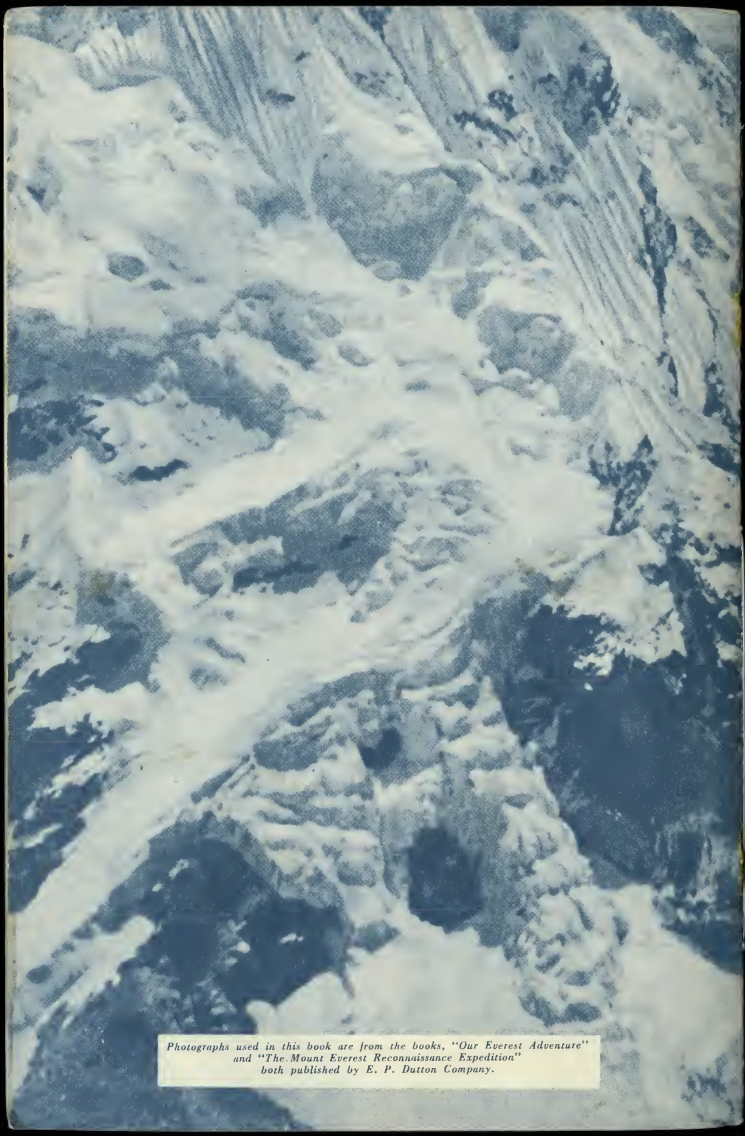
Hillary placed a crucifix that Sir John Hunt had given him on the South Col, in the same hole. The date was May 29, 1953.

Slowly the two men started the descent. Mount Everest had been conquered. What now?

GLOSSARY

arete	a narrow ridge
balaclava	a woolen hood
belay	to secure a climber to a projection with a rope
chimney	a narrow vertical gully in ice or rock
col	a pass or depression in a mountain chain
cornice	an overhanging mass of ice or snow
couloir	a gully in a mountainside
crampon	a metal boot frame with spikes for gripping ice.
crevasse	a fissure in a glacier
cwm	(pronounced "coom") an enclosed valley on a hill
icefall	a frozen cascade of ice
monsoon	a wind in South Asia.
moraine	debris brought down by a glacier
piton	a metal spike with a ring, for driving in ice or rock
rope	a link or tie between climbers for their safety. An entire climbing party is called a "rope"
sangar	a low wall which serves as a windbreak
scree	a slope of small loose stones
serac	a tower or pinnacle of ice
Sherpas	the hillmen of Tibetan stock from Eastern Nepal.
snow-bridge	a layer of snow briding a crevasse
spur	a rib of rock descending from a main ridge
"Tiger"	a proficiency badge awarded Sherpas
traverse	to proceed across a mountain slope horizontally
"Yeti"	the unidentified creatures believed to inhabit the Himalayan mountains. "Abominable Snowmen"

SLOPE OF LHOTSE



Photographs used in this book are from the books, "Our Everest Adventure" and "The Mount Everest Reconnaissance Expedition" both published by E. P. Dutton Company.

Climb the World's Highest Mountain!
MT. EVEREST
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